

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the foregoing comments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5 and 20 are pending in the application, with Claims 6-19 having previously been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 3 is amended by the present amendment. Support for amended Claim 3 can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter is presented.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 3-5 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokomizo et al. (U.S. Patent 6,321,266, hereinafter "Yokomizo"). In response to this rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claim 3 recites novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Amended independent Claim 3 recites, in part, a computer program product causing a printer to perform a method of controlling a configuration of the printer, comprising:

receiving a request for a printer control interface from a computer remote from the printer;
sending the printer control interface to the remote computer, *wherein the printer control interface is in the form of a Web page*;
receiving a series of printer control parameters in response to sending the printer control interface; and
updating a control memory of the printer based on the series of printer control parameters.

As discussed in the Background portion of the specification, applications that print from host systems to printers typically convert their internal print requests to PostScript or PCL before such communications is sent to the printer. The claimed invention improves upon these systems by allowing data to be exchanged between a remote computer and the

¹ e.g., specification., p. 6.

printer using standard hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) requests and producing World Wide Web pages to allow for an update of the configuration of the printer.²

Turning to the applied reference, Yokomizo describes an input/output apparatus connected to a plurality of host computers via a network, which generates image data from data input from a host computer and prints the generated image data.³ As a result, the input/output apparatus may operate in coordination with a plurality of personal computers by using the network to transfer image data.

Yokomizo, however, fails to teach or suggest sending the printer control interface to a remote computer, *wherein the printer control interface is in the form of a Web page*. Specifically, Yokomizo fails to teach or suggest the use of Web pages or browsers to exchange information, whatsoever.

In addressing the feature of “sending the printer control interface to a remote computer feature,” the Official Action relies on col. 1, lines 44-52, col. 32, lines 36-67 and col. 38, lines 16-55 of Yokomizo stating that this cited text “clearly describe how the control program can be send to a server or another computer” (sic).

However, the cited portion of Yokomizo describes using an application already existing in a host computer to set print job information, and convert the data sent by the application program to a data structure which can be accepted by the selected network server. Specifically, the cited portion of Yokomizo describes the use of Centronics interface software for transfer of data from a computer to a printer. At no point does the cited portion of Yokomizo teach or suggest sending a printer control interface to a remote computer, much less that such a control interface is in the form of a Web page.

Moreover, the cited portion of Yokomizo specifically teaches away from the transmission of Web pages between the host computer and the printer, stating that the

² Id.

³ Yokomizo, Abstract.

Centronics software is used for such transmissions due to ability to permit “inexpensive and high speed data transfer” characteristics. The Centronics interface does not facilitate the transfer of Web pages. Thus, the use of Web pages to exchange information between a remote computer and the printer would not have been obvious based on Yokomizo’s description.

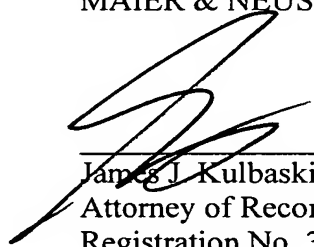
Further, other portions of Yokomizo’s description allude to the use of TCP/IP to exchange data, but at no point discloses that Web pages are exchanges to facilitate printer configuration, whatsoever. Instead, Yokomizo, at col. 32, lines 55-67, for example, specifically states that data is converted into CaPSL data before being transmitted over the TCP/IP communications link.

Thus, Yokomizo not only fails to teach or suggest sending the printer control interface to a remote computer, *wherein the printer control interface is in the form of a Web page*, but the reference also teaches away from this claimed feature. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 3 (and Claims 4-5 and 20, which depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 3-5 and 20 is patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 34,648

Andrew T. Harry
Registration No. 56,959

Customer Number
22850
Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

JJK:ATH\la